

## TEACHERS FROWN ON MILITARY DRILL

Instruction in Calisthenics and Personal Hygiene Favored by Majority.

## ECHOES OF WAR HEARD

Views on Various Topics Presented at Sessions of N. E. A. in the Garden.

Military training for schoolboys, with rifles and uniforms, is likely to be recommended by the National Education Association. A considerable majority of the teachers believe it to be both unnecessary and demoralizing, as indicated by the expression of opinion in the annual convention, in many departmental meetings and in the conversation of the delegates.

At its business meeting to-morrow morning the convention will probably re-consider the substance of its 1915 resolution, which declared "against the establishment of compulsory military training in the schools on the ground that this is reactionary and inconsistent with American ideals and standards."

As for compulsory physical training with "military" omitted, that is another matter. A majority of the teachers seem to favor the general adoption of a system of calisthenics and personal hygiene which will help the boys and girls to keep their bodies fit. If incidentally it helps the boys toward physical preparedness for whatever Uncle Sam might eventually ask them to do the teachers have no objection to that.

The resolutions committee was in session late last night trying to frame a "preparedness" policy acceptable to both the pacifist and military groups. The committee will again tackle this puzzle, along with woman suffrage and other proposals, this morning.

## Called Silly Mistake.

One of the sharpest speeches yesterday was made by Dr. W. C. Ward, director of physical training in the New York public schools, before the physical training section of the N. E. A. "A silly, hysterical mistake," he said, "seems to be running through the country now—a notion of military training for school boys. It is a mistake, a mistake, a mistake. This drilling of boys and putting them in uniforms is absurd from a military point of view and is worse than absurd from an educational point of view. It is a cheap expedient of persons in a misguided, interfering mood."

Randall Warden of Newark said it was ridiculous to say that military training was a national system of education which should be drilled into fifteen minutes a day.

Philander P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, said "The United States Senator who was preparing a compulsory military training bill asked me recently for information which would support his contention. I am a servant of the United States and I gave him what he asked for. But I said, 'If you want real preparedness in this country, appoint a commission to study the national system of education which shall be democratic, flexible and practical.'"

"Just think of the situation. Not for twenty years has any nation been in the habit of invading us, and then we shall have 150,000,000 people. If we are well and our minds are conscious of our might, shall be unafraid of the United States, Germany of sixty years ago, to which all the world went to school, incomparably greater than the Germany of to-day. Let us say—another day in the history of the world after the school was set up in the gymnasium. The Greeks that was great did not become so through studying archery. Do not let us say that point toward a solution for our problem of to-day."

## Hits at Slater Bill.

Thomas W. Churchill, ex-president of the New York Board of Education, talked before the physical training section of the administration in Aetolian Hall, attacked the Slater school military service bill and said:

"You cannot teach pupils physics at 10 o'clock and put rifles in their hands at 11. The only countries where this school system exists are Australia and Japan. We never can have it here."

The general sessions of the convention were continued in Madison Square Garden in the afternoon and last night. James V. Joyner, superintendent of public instruction for South Carolina, described vocational education "for the great industrial masses" as "an economic necessity, a democratic right and obligation." President G. Stanley Hall of Clark University said that in patriotism and spiritual development lay true preparedness.

"If these rivers of blood in Europe bring any convincing proof," he said, "it will be in the way of social harmony between ranks and classes, the abolition of barriers and prejudices, closer cooperation between the rich and poor, capital and labor, learning and ignorance. Even our coming political campaign should be tempered with moderation, because preparedness should make up in a new sense all members of our body."

"The war has caused the greatest revival the world has ever seen, at home and in the field. The chief cause of the moral miracle in France is the new soul that appeared in her literature at about the outbreak of the war. Her inherent intellectual and artistic powers, there is a renaissance of the very heart of Christianity in academic, cultured France. In Germany the same thing occurred a little later—a renaissance of man's primordial feeling of service to a higher power."

Mrs. Fannie Fern Anderson, secretary of the American School Peace League, pictured leadership in restoring civilization as the greatest service education could give to humanity. She said a national department of education should be established and the Commissioner of Education should sit in the President's Cabinet. He and his staff should define the nation's educational ideals.

Against "Junior Highs." A protest against the establishment of the "junior high school" was voiced by Carroll G. Pearson, principal of the Milwaukee Normal School. He said that high school education should be carried to its logical conclusion would make the common schools infant schools. Fred M. Hunter, superintendent of the Lincoln, Neb., schools, made a plea for the "socialized recitation" to combat "exaggerated individualism." O. B. Martin of the Federal Department of Agriculture talked about "Mass Instruction Through Group Training."

Education of the alien and the negro was emphasized in last night's discussion. The New York school boys and girls who had made all the music up to this time gave way to the melodious quartette of the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute. Holley C. Frazier, principal of that institution, was the first speaker. He said:

"Booker Washington's life was a distinct victory for the negro race and for the ideas which Hampton stands for. Washington, and his successor at Tuskegee, R. R. Moton, both preached the

## doctrine of training the hand, the head and the heart.

William C. Redfield, Secretary of Commerce, quoted a rhyme in his address on vocational education. It was:

"Little Johnny went to heaven,  
We no more hear from him more.  
What he took for his O. O."

This was to point his sentence, "I take it a boy in a soap works, a brewery or a benzol plant would not be harmed by knowing the chemistry of his business." He also said:

"Consider the value to a great department store of a whole force of clerks trained for salesmanship. Consider the value to a great mechanical industry of a working force in which each unit did with reason and intelligence the work to which his hand was set. Behold how under such conditions waste goes out at the door, and with the rule of thumb and all things born of ignorance."

It makes one proud and confident to think of America facing the world in the peaceful conquests of industry supported by trained and intelligent workers. It makes one rather sad to think of America trying to meet the world in competition unless and until her workers are in it with their eyes well worth studying and teaching, that we may live better and with less care."

Dr. John H. Finley, Commissioner of Education of this state, discussed "The Education of the Alien."

"Go to Public School 62 or to the College of the City of New York," said Dr. Finley, "if you want to see America unsharpened, unsharpened, unsharpened of its opportunity, unabashed by its ideals."

He made a plea for the teaching of pure English.

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## NEARING SAYS PAPERS SUPPRESS WAR NEWS

Tells Educators Our Schools Are Controlled by Business Group.

## Department of Agriculture Explains Cause of High Cost of Living.

The schools of this country are not organized democracies but organized plutocracies, Dr. Scott Nearing, formerly of the University of Pennsylvania, said yesterday in an address at the Waldorf before the League of Teachers.

Educational institutions in the United States, the speaker said, are controlled by the same group that controls our industries and "the power of business today is more complete and supreme than ever has been before in the history of the American Government or American industries."

Dr. Nearing accused the newspapers and editors of carrying on a "deliberate and consistent campaign of misrepresentation" with regard to war news from Europe and conditions in Mexico. He said the press has for eighteen months been suppressing news concerning the German side and putting forth facts that would make for preparedness.

As a remedy for the situation Dr. Nearing urged that teachers should publish opinion honestly and that they fight the suppression of free speech, which "has not been allowed in our colleges for a generation."

## BOYS IN CAMP ALL WELL.

Any Leaving Fort Hamilton Henceforth Cannot Return.

Edwin M. Appleton, assistant secretary of the National School Camp Association, said yesterday that the 500 boys quarantined in camp at Fort Hamilton are all well and there seems no danger of infantile paralysis.

Six boys who left to spend the Fourth of July at their homes in New York City, he said, have returned to camp yesterday. Three more were disappointed after coming from Washington. The boys now in camp will have to stay there until August 31, he said.

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## MEAT SITUATION REPORTED SERIOUS

Department of Agriculture Explains Cause of High Cost of Living.

## Continued from First Page.

ent, no visitors are permitted to visit the children during the epidemic. Exceptions are to be made only in the cases of children who are acutely ill.

The Educational Alliance announced that its roof classes would be discontinued for the present and that the activities would be limited to children who had been under careful medical observation.

Dr. Emerson had conferences yesterday with the Acting Police Commissioner, Leon G. Godley, and with the Street Cleaning Commissioner, John T. Fetherston, to discuss a campaign of municipal cleanliness.

Commissioner Godley accordingly assigned a score of policemen from Communities West, East and North to clean up the streets.

Commissioner Fetherston was asked to assign squads of street cleaners to flush the streets in the East Side and in certain districts of Brooklyn.

"Acting on the theory that cleanliness may prevent the spread of the disease," said Dr. Emerson, "we are seeking not only to have the streets flushed, but to have the hospitals wards mopped several times daily, and to give instructions to homes where cases have been reported to do so sweeping without first having damped the floor."

Palm Houses Will Help.

A campaign of education will be carried on with the aid of the motion picture houses. All the theatres in the city, all the houses of 3,000 seats or more in Brooklyn have promised to put on the screen at every performance warnings against the disease.

One of the warnings that will be shown on the screen in every theatre in Brooklyn to-day will read:

Don't let your child go to parties, picnics or outings.

Don't let your child play with any children who have sickness at home.

If your child is sick, send for your doctor at once or send word to the Board of Health.

A washed child is a safe child.

Keep your home and children clean.

Swat the fly.

Dr. N. Neustadter and Dr. William Thor, who have made an investigation of infantile paralysis, called attention yesterday to an article which they wrote some months ago. In that article they said that the disease was spread by the contact of children with the monkey.

Dr. Samuel H. Dixon, Health Commissioner of Pennsylvania, called on Dr. Emerson yesterday afternoon. The two men had a long conference over the disease and the precautions that should be taken.

Dr. Dixon said that one case had been reported in Bristol, Pa. He was of the opinion, however, that the disease was not communicable and said that the present precautions would be an interesting experiment.

Dr. Robert J. Wilson of the Board of Health announced yesterday he will hire all the nurses he can get. He will pay \$10 a month and provide maintenance.

He said the opportunity for the nurses to study the disease and the best methods of treatment will be unusual.

On Increase Elsewhere.

Infantile paralysis is not confined to New York. Reports from the suburbs and from distant cities show that the disease is on the increase and another case in Long Island, one death and three new cases have occurred in the last few days.

Dr. J. H. Bogart, health officer of North Hempstead township, directed that the children be not permitted to go to Sunday schools or motion picture theatres at present.

In Newark the death of George Winterkorn, 153 Park street, was reported and another case came to the attention of the authorities.

The Jersey State authorities have sent warnings to all the town and city health officers concerning the disease.

Dr. Herman M. Biggs, State Commissioner of Health, sent instructions yesterday to health officers throughout the state to inspect all camps and summer homes maintained for the benefit of New York children. His instructions were to confine children already there for at least three weeks.

No arrangement had been made with the American Government in this connection, Mr. Tennant added, as the censorship of correspondence was one of the universal recognized rights of all sovereigns, but caution and tact were used in dealing with this matter.

Little interference with letters. Parliament is told.

London, July 5.—In answering a long question in the House of Commons to-day, in which Laurence Ginnell, Nationalist member for North Westmeath, alleged that letters between Ireland and America had been stopped and controlled by the censor, Harold J. Tennant, Parliamentary Under Secretary for War, said that when once it was established that correspondence between Great Britain and Ireland and the United States was innocuous it was subjected to no censorship whatever by the authorities of this country.

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## INFANT PARALYSIS IN EPIDEMIC STAGE

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